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Office of Current Intelligence

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

DIA and DOS review(s) completed.

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SUMMARY

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INDOCHINA

3. Chinese Communist forces deployed on Indochinese border:

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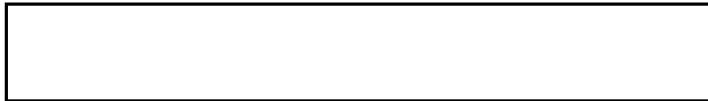
[Redacted box]

The US Military Attaché in Hanoi reports that, of the 180,000 Chinese Communist regulars within 250 miles of Indochina, some 60,000 are now situated close to the border. These forces are deployed as follows: 25,000 opposite Laokay, 10-15,000 north of Caobang, and 20-25,000 in the Lungchow-Moncay area. According to the MA, the French staff believes that Chinese Communist intervention is now physically possible and that actual intervention depends on political decisions.

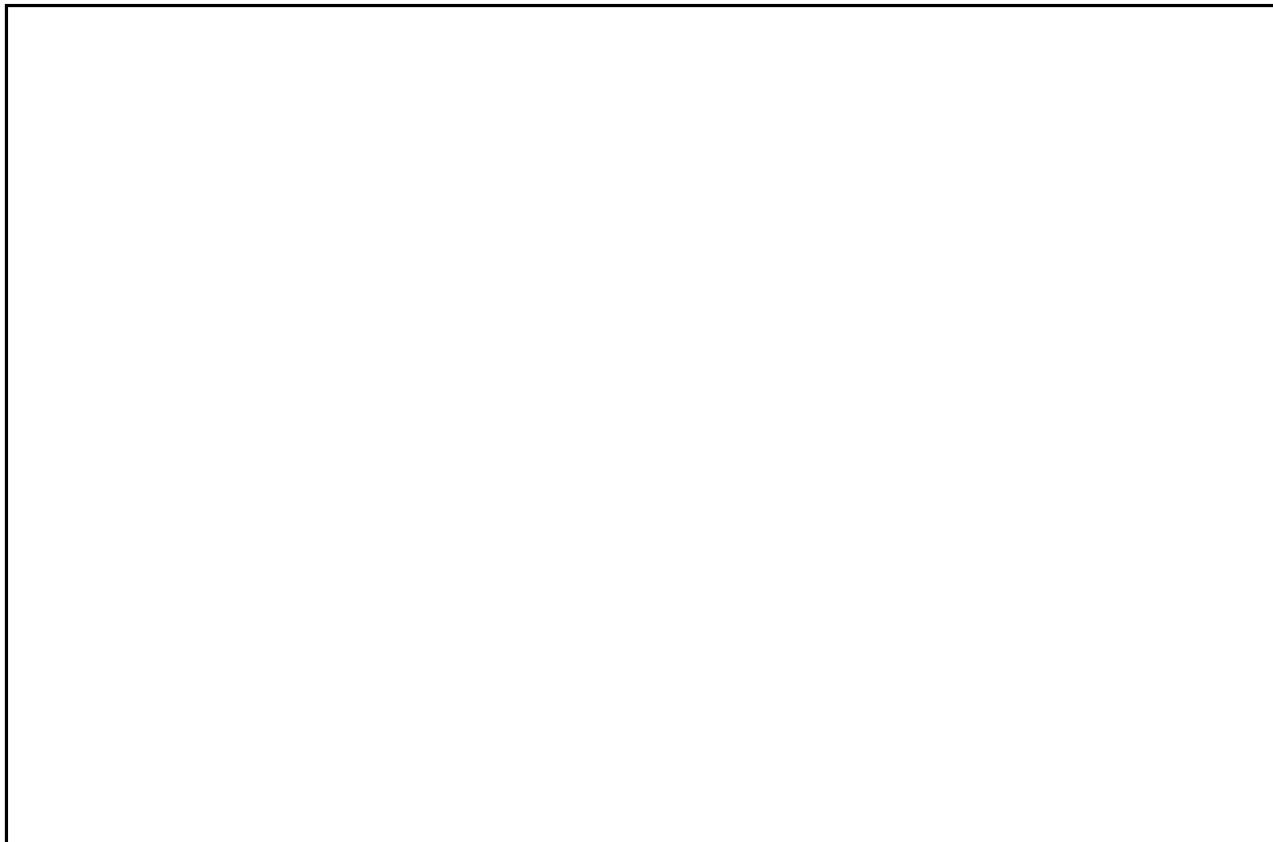
Comment: The presence of 60,000 Chinese Communist regulars along the Indochinese border represents a new development. The three groups are significantly astride the three best routes of entry into Tonkin. The figure of 180,000 approximates that carried by G-2 for Chinese Communist forces in this area.

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AUSTRIA

5. Austrian officials expect Communist disturbances:

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Leading Austrian officials have informed the US High Commissioner in Vienna that the Communists are continuing without let-up to plan disturbances for February or March. The officials are confident that the Austrian police force can control the situation, provided the Communists do not receive overt support from Soviet forces. To prevent serious disturbances, the government has alerted the police and is appropriating additional funds to increase employment.

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Comment:

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[REDACTED] There is no reason to doubt, however, that the Communists will seek to capitalize on unemployment and other labor grievances. The Legation has noted earlier that, barring the use of arms and considerably greater Soviet support for the Communists than was given last October, a serious threat to the Austrian Government or to US installations in the area is not likely to develop. Furthermore, the unemployment has eased as a result of the government's program.

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